

Frequently Asked Questions

TAXES

Q: What is the City of Powell Income Tax rate and what type of income is taxable?

A: As of Jan. 1, 1991, the income tax rate is .75 percent. Generally, gross income (including income that is deferred) and business net profits are taxable.

Q: Does the City of Powell give a credit for municipal income taxes paid to another city?

A: A partial credit is allowed for taxes due and paid to another city. The credit rate is the lesser of .25 percent or up to the amount of the tax paid to the other city. W-2s or copies of the other city's tax return and proof of payment must support credit claimed.

Q: I didn't earn any money this year; do I need to file a return?

A: Yes. The City of Powell has a mandatory tax filing for all residents. This includes anyone temporarily living away from home such as college students, teachers, military, etc. However, if you are retired and will receive only retirement, pension or Social Security payments, there is an exemption form that needs to be filed that will exclude you from the mandatory filing.

Q: How do I pay my taxes if my taxes aren't withheld?

A: You would annually file a Declaration of Estimated Tax and make quarterly estimated tax payments to the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA).

Q: I am not a resident of the city, but I work there. If my employer withholds my tax, do I need to file a return?

A: Nonresidents need only file when their income was not withheld by their employer correctly.

Q: How would I request an extension?

A: All taxpayers unable to file a completed return by the due date must file an extension request. Copies of federal extension forms can be used instead of the Regional Income Tax Agency form. Payment of any tax balance due must accompany the extension request and be received by the original due date of the return.

Q: Who do I ask if I have more questions about my income tax bill or return?

A: You can contact the Regional Income Tax Agency at 1-800-860-7482.

BUDGET & FINANCE

Q: Why is the City's property tax so high?

A: Only a portion of your property taxes goes to the City. Approximately 2% of your property taxes go to support the City's operations, with another 2% used to pay for debt payments voted by the residents. The remaining 96% goes to: the Olentangy and vocational schools (79%); Liberty Township (8%); Delaware County (5%); and other agencies (4%).

Q: How much does that "2% of property tax" generate in actual dollars?

A: It amounts to approximately \$500,000 each year.

Q: Who do I ask if I have more questions on my property tax bill or payment?

A: You can contact the Delaware County Auditor's office, which processes the bills and payments of property taxes for the entire county, at (740) 833-2900.

Q: When is the City's annual budget created, and can the public attend budget meetings and provide their input?

A: The budgetary process starts in June and is approved in December of each year. The City holds public meetings and the public is always encouraged to come and contribute their input to the proceedings. You can check the City's Web site or call the City for actual dates and times of these meetings.

Q: Where can I obtain a copy of the budget?

A: The budget is available online on the City's Finance Department Web page. A copy is also available at the Village Green Municipal Building (47 Hall St.).

Q: Who do I ask if I have more questions on the City's revenues or expenditures?

A: You can contact the City's Finance Department by sending a question through the "contact us" section of the Web site or e-mailing a question to Finance Director Debra Miller at dmiller@cityofpowell.us.